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**EXHIBIT A**

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**RELEASE**

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Plaintiff, the State of Illinois, in its sovereign capacity and on behalf of itself, its political subdivisions and, to the full extent permitted by law, as class representative and *parens patriae* on behalf of natural persons residing in Illinois who purchased indirectly Sorbates as defined in the Judgment dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2004 entered by the Circuit Court of Cook county, Illinois, as provided for in the Settlement Agreement (the "Settlement Agreement") between the State of Illinois and Daicel Chemical Industries, Ltd., Daicel (USA), Inc., Eastman Chemical Company, Hoechst Aktiengesellschaft, Nutrinova Nutrition Specialties & Food Ingredients, GmbH, Hoechst Celanese Corporation, a/k/a CNA Holdings, Inc., Nutrinova, Inc., Celanese AG, and Nippon Gohsei, a/k/a Nippon Synthetic Chemical Industry Co., Ltd., and all of their successors, assigns, parents, subsidiaries, divisions, officers, directors, employees, agents, representatives, related or affiliated entities, and any other person acting on their behalf in this case, during the period January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1997 (collectively "The Defendants"), for and in consideration of the monetary payment set forth in the Settlement Agreement, the consent of The Defendants to the entry of the aforementioned Judgment, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, does hereby release The Defendants, to the extent legally permissible, of and from any and all claims or causes of action arising under any federal or state antitrust or unfair acts, practices or competition law or other statute, law or regulation with respect to the period January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1997, arising out of the facts alleged in the Complaint (as defined in the Settlement Agreement), or arising out of any alleged agreement or conspiracy involving The Defendants agreeing or conspiring with each other or third parties to fix the prices of Sorbates (as defined in the Settlement Agreement). The State of Illinois expressly reserves all claims against all parties other than The Defendants.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_